

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1, 6, 7, 11-13, 17-19, 23 and 24 will remain pending in this application. Claims 4, 5, 9, 10, 15, 16, 21 and 22 are hereby canceled. Claims 2, 8, 14 and 20 were previously canceled. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added by the present amendment.

Claims 1-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by WO 00/59150 ("Peinado"). Applicants respectfully traverse all outstanding rejections.

Interview Summary

Applicants' undersigned representative, Mr. Eiferman, and Examiner Beemnet Dada participated in a telephonic interview on March 5, 2007 to discuss the above claim amendments. Examiner Dada stated that the above claim amendments appeared to overcome the rejections of record.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 15, 19 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,856,686 ("Disanto") in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0249756 ("Garibay"). Independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 are hereby amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 4, 10, 16 and 22, respectively, which the Office Action indicates as allowable subject matter. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 and all claims depending therefrom are patentable over the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections are respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

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